

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A bridge apparatus for a building automation system comprising:
 - a system controller;
 - a first network controller operatively associated with the system controller, the first network controller connecting the bridge to a local area network;
 - a second network controller operatively associated with the system controller, the second network controller connecting the bridge to a subnetwork;
 - and
 - computer-readable program code provided in computer-readable storage operatively associated with the system controller, the computer-readable program code including:
 - program code for receiving configuration information via the local area network; and
 - program code for configuring an automation device connected to the subnetwork based on the configuration information.
2. The bridge apparatus of claim 1, wherein the computer-readable program code further includes program code for assigning a dynamic address to the automation device in the subnetwork.

3. The bridge apparatus of claim 1, wherein the computer-readable program code further includes program code for receiving updated configuration information via the local area network for the automation device in the subnetwork.
4. The bridge apparatus of claim 1, wherein the computer-readable program code further includes program code for maintaining a map of automation devices in the subnetwork.
5. The bridge apparatus of claim 1, wherein the computer-readable program code further includes program code for automatically updating the map if an automation device is added to the subnetwork.
6. The bridge apparatus of claim 1, wherein the computer-readable program code further includes program code for operating automation devices in a vacation mode.
7. The bridge apparatus of claim 1, wherein the computer-readable program code further includes program code for updating firmware at the device in the subnetwork.

8. The bridge apparatus of claim 1, wherein the computer-readable program code further includes program code for resetting a device in the subnetwork.

9. A building automation system comprising:

a local area network;

a subnetwork for connecting at least one automation device;

a first bridge connecting the subnetwork to the local area network;

a second bridge connecting the subnetwork to the local area network,

wherein at least one of the bridges connects the subnetwork to the local area network even if the other bridge is offline.

10. The building automation system of claim 9, wherein at least one of the bridges is communicatively coupled to at least one automation device even if the subnetwork includes a break.

11. The building automation network of claim 9, wherein the subnetwork is a CAN bus.

12. The building automation network of claim 9, wherein the local area network is an Ethernet network.

13. The building automation network of claim 9, further comprising a plurality of subnetworks connected to the local area network by a plurality of bridges.
14. A method comprising:
- connecting a bridge to a local area network;
 - connecting the bridge to a subnetwork;
 - receiving configuration information at the bridge via the local area network;
- and
- configuring an automation device in the subnetwork based on the configuration information received at the bridge.
15. The method of claim 14, further comprising assigning a dynamic address to the automation device in the subnetwork.
16. The method of claim 14, further comprising receiving updated configuration information via the local area network for the automation device in the subnetwork.
17. The method of claim 14, further comprising maintaining a map of automation devices in the subnetwork.

18. The method of claim 14, further comprising automatically updating a map of automation devices in the subnetwork if an automation device is added to the subnetwork.

19. The method of claim 14, further comprising operating automation devices in a vacation mode.

20. The method of claim 14, further comprising resetting a device in the subnetwork.

21. The method of claim 14, further comprising isolation of a fault in the subnetwork.

22. The method of claim 14, further comprising automatic rerouting of subnetwork traffic if a subnetwork fails.